

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE NUECES RIVER AND CORPUS CHRISTI BAY AND BAFFIN BAY BASIN AND BAY AREA STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE (NUECES BBASC)

10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

**LIBRARY/COMMUNITY CENTER, 1101 CAMPBELL AVENUE,
JOURDANTON, TX
MARCH 28, 2012**

Members present: Con Mims, Chair; James Dodson, Vice Chair; Ray Allen (proxy for Ed Buskey, proxy for Wes Tunnell); Dick Bowers; Paul Carangelo; Rocky Freund; Gus Gonzalez; Timo Hixon; Don Roach; Carola Serrato; Pat Suter; Buddy Stanley; Mike Mahoney; Tom Ballou; John Adams; George Driskill; Teresa Carrillo

1. Call to order

Chairman Con Mims called the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was reached.

3. Public comment

There was no public comment at this time.

4. Approve Minutes

Approval of the February 22, 2012 minutes was postponed.

5. Comments from SAC liaison

No comments from the SAC liaison.

6. Comments from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

No comments from the TCEQ.

7. Discussion and appropriate action on funding BBASC meetings

Chairman Mims discussed the costs of securing the Jourdanton Library and Community Center for the BBASC meetings. The members agreed to continue to meet at this location and the group will explore potential sources of funding for future meetings.

8. Discussion and appropriate action on report from the Public Information/Education Program Subcommittee

The next BBASC workgroup meeting will be held on April 3, 2012. This subcommittee agreed to consider this issue and report back to the full BBASC at the April 25, 2012 meeting.

9. Discussion and appropriate action on the schedule and responsibilities for drafting the BBASC's Recommendations Report

BBASC Alternate Jace Tunnell provided an update on the BBASC report schedule, noting that scheduled sections had been drafted. He discussed the rule process and explained options. It was suggested that the work group can provide their comments on drafted report sections for consideration by the full BBASC and that the lead authors can present their drafts for discussion at BBASC meetings.

10. Discussion and appropriate action on selection and work of technical assistance consultant

Ruben Solis, TWDB, noted that the technical support contract had been awarded to HDR, Inc., with input from the BBASC Work Group. Sam Vaughn, HDR, provided an overview of the technical support work to support the Nueces BBASC. The technical support scope of work includes:

- Evaluations of planned water supply project
- Evaluation of potential environmental flow standards and strategies
- BBASC recommendations regarding environmental flow standards
- Technical support during BBASC meetings and report compilation

11. Discussion and appropriate action on modeling commissioned by City of Corpus Christi

Member Ray Allen updated the members on modeling activities being performed by HDR, Inc. He noted that consultants are looking at different scenarios based on the flow recommendations developed by the Nueces BBEST. Technical consultant Cory Shockley, HDR, discussed the progress and analysis performed to date. Preliminary modeling results show that every time the model was run under the various scenarios the attainment frequencies were not met, and implementation of the BBEST recommendations reduced the safe yield.

Ruben Solis, TWDB, discussed their work regarding model simulation for salinity reduction and maintenance in Nueces Bay. They found that the TxBLEND modeling results do match up with actual data.

12. Discussion and appropriate action on formulating BBASC goals relating to the ecological condition of Nueces Bay and Delta

The group considered what goal regarding the ecological condition of the Nueces Bay and Delta and adopted the following:

The goal of the Nueces BBASC with regard to the Nueces Bay and Delta is to return the Nueces Bay and Delta to ecological conditions existing prior to

construction of Choke Canyon Reservoir to the extent possible while preserving existing water rights and yield of the reservoir system. To this end, the Nueces BBASC will recommend instream flow and estuary inflow regimes that may improve the existing ecological condition of the Nueces Bay and Delta, but will not diminish its existing condition, and will set forth, in its Workplan, strategies to enhance its ecological condition.

13. Introductory discussion on developing potential strategies to meet environmental flow recommendations

Norman Johns, National Wildlife Federation, presented a paper outlining potential strategies to meet environmental flow standards. Strategies outlined included:

- Donation, sale, or lease of existing water permits
- Voluntary dedication of conserved water from current permits to environmental flows
- Voluntary dedication of wastewater return flows

14. Public comment

There was no public comment at this time.

15. Adjourn